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CLASSIFICATION SEC

NOFORN

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activities in Rudolstadt and the Buchenwald Concentration Camp

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED 7 October 1955

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Between 1 and 8 September 1955, the Prinz Eugen Kaserne (8462) in Rudolstadt was occupied by some 600 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The installation was fully lighted at dusk. The unit, which was the same previously observed there, had been filled up by very young soldiers. Little training and vehicular traffic and no heavy weapons were observed. The AAA emplacement in front of the installation was still unoccupied. ¹
2. Between 1 and 8 September, the Flak Kaserne (8461) was occupied to capacity by approximately 1,200 soldiers who, according to soldiers observed en route to and from the installation, included 60 percent wearing blue-bordered black epaulets, 20 percent red-bordered black epaulets and each 10 percent red-bordered red and black-bordered black epaulets. Training and a little vehicular traffic were observed. ²
3. Between 1 and 8 September, the Finanzamt (8465) was occupied to capacity by 500 to 600 soldiers. Basic training without rifles was observed. ³
4. Between 1 and 8 September, up to 200 soldiers from all installations daily participated in infantry training at the known training village in the Saale meadows. The AAA emplacement on the Moerlaer Hoehe (hill) was occupied as previously by 4 x 85-mm AA guns, 2 heavy machine guns and 1 rod antenna. The gun crews were quartered in 4 small and 2 large tents. The emplacement was still connected with the Flak Kaserne by a telephone line. The AAA emplacement on the southern slope of the hill west of Moerla was still vacant. ⁴
5. On 6 and 7 September, an engineer exercise with bridge-building equipment was held on the southern bank of the Saale River near the Rudolstadt town area. ⁵

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6. Between 27 August and 7 September, the Buchenwald concentration camp (8508) was occupied by an estimated 600 to 800 KVP soldiers. It was learned that an ammunition bunker had been under construction in the installation for 8 weeks. A freight train with equipment and fuel barrels was seen at the Buchenwald railroad station which was reconstructed.⁶

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1. Comment. The bulk of the 497th AAA Regt of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps, which is believed to be stationed in this installation, was presumably at the post.

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2. Comment. The 880th Engr Bn and the 53d Sig Bn of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Corps and the AT Bn of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div are carried in this installation.

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3. Comment. The Finanzamt is believed to be occupied as previously by the Hq XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps.

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4. Comment. [Redacted]

5. Comment. These were presumably elements of the 880th Engr Bn of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps.

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6. Comment. On 2 May 1955, the Buchenwald concentration camp was reported to be occupied by a Soviet engineer unit. [Redacted] After that date, only KVP have been observed in the installation. The Soviet engineer unit may be quartered in another section of the installation and the bulk of the engineer unit may have been absent from its post for exercises after May 1955.

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